

House Engrossed

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2005

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 2007

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE ACTION THAT WOULD IMPROVE STORAGE, DESALT AND AUGMENT THE FLOW OF COLORADO RIVER WATER SUPPLIES TO RIVER BASIN STATES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)



1 To the Congress of the United States:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, in 1964, the United States Supreme Court decreed that Arizona
4 is entitled to 2.8 million acre-feet of water from the Lower Colorado River
5 each year. The water allocations for California and Nevada, the other lower
6 basin states, were determined in the same litigation and each state was given
7 equal priority under the Supreme Court's decree; and

8 Whereas, despite prevailing in the litigation, Arizona was unable to
9 practically use its entitlement to the water until the Central Arizona
10 Project (CAP) was constructed. As a condition of obtaining congressional
11 approval for the construction of the CAP, Arizona accepted a limitation on
12 its water entitlement that effectively gives the state the lowest priority in
13 times of shortage in exchange for commitment on the part of the federal
14 government to augment Colorado River water supplies; and

15 Whereas, CAP provides one-third of Arizona's renewable water supplies
16 and without this water, the many cities, towns, Indian communities and
17 agricultural water users that depend on the CAP in Central Arizona would face
18 critical water supply shortages.

19 Whereas, the Yuma desalting plant was constructed by the federal
20 government pursuant to the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to treat
21 water for delivery to Mexico in satisfaction of United States treaty
22 obligations, but the United States has failed to operate the desalter, thus
23 causing the loss of more than one hundred thousand acre feet of water
24 annually from Lake Mead; and

25 Whereas, the lack of adequate regulatory storage facilities in the
26 Colorado River system above the Mexican border has resulted in the continuing
27 overdelivery of water to Mexico, further reducing the supplies available to
28 meet the needs of California, Nevada and Arizona and increasing the risk of
29 shortage.

30 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of
31 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

32 1. That the Congress of the United States take such actions, including
33 enacting legislation and appropriating funds, as are required to construct or
34 improve regulatory storage facilities in the lower Colorado River system,
35 operate the Yuma desalting plant and augment the flow of the Colorado River
36 to protect Arizona's Colorado River water supplies and allow the lower
37 Colorado River basin states to maximize the benefits of their water
38 entitlements.

39 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit
40 copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the
41 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of
42 Congress from the State of Arizona.

~~PASSED BY THE HOUSE MARCH 14, 2005.~~

~~PASSED BY THE SENATE APRIL 13, 2005.~~

~~FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 13, 2005.~~

Passed the House March 14, 20 05

by the following vote: 54 Ayes

1 Nays, 5 Not Voting

[Signature]
Speaker of the House

Norman L. Moore
Chief Clerk of the House

Passed the Senate April 13, 20 05

by the following vote: 21 Ayes

8 Nays, 1 Not Voting

[Signature]
President of the Senate

Channing Billington
Secretary of the Senate

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Memorial was received by the Secretary of State

H.C.M. 2007

this 13 day of April, 20 05

at 3:09 o'clock P. M.

[Signature]
Secretary of State